DIDSBURY

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2010

Didsbury Dragons player James Lefebvre drives to the hoop over Olds Koinonia Royals players during their game at Olds Koinonia Christian School on Dec. 20. The Dragons won 86-44. For story, see p2.



'Didsbury' becomes brand name for gloves

BY SYLVIA COLE

Review Staff

A high-end winter glove branded 'Didsbury' is currently in the design phase and is set to launch throughout North America.

Tadashi Sunagawa, president and CEO of Les Gants glove factory in Didsbury's twin city Miki Town, asked to use 'Didsbury' as a brand name.

"He's a very, very strong supporter and believes in it (economic partnership) very much and wants to see what we can do to ensure that it continues," said

The Town of Didsbury has signed an agreement with Les Gants to permit the use of portions of the town logo that will be on each glove manufactured. The gloves, expected to be winter gloves, are presently being designed.

Sunagawa has sent a contract to the town, and Wittal said it's currently being translated to make sure everyone understand the requirements. Council and town administration will also have to figure out how they will enter the agreement and whether it will be through the town or a separate business

The benefit of the partnership is to give Didsbury better exposure in Canada and North America, explains Wittal. He also wants to set up a trust fund to

collect money from sales.
"We want dollars to go back towards the exchange program. We can offer a portion of any gloves back into a trust fund to allow students to continue on an

into a trust fund to allow students to continue on an exchange or set up bursaries or grants for students who want to continue their education in Japan or Canada, or something like this," said Wittal.

During a trip to Didsbury's twin city Miki Town last year, Mayor Brian Wittal, CAO Roy Brown and administrative assistant Luana Smith spoke with five different business, including Les Gants about the prospect of bringing international businesses to Central Alberta.

Wittal, Brown and Smith returned the invitation to businesses last year to visit Didsbury and plans are

businesses last year to visit Didsbury and plans are underway to bring officials to town in 2011.

"Some expressed interest in a return trip or trade mission to Central Alberta to see what business oppormission to Central Alberta to see what obstiess oppor-tunities there are and whether they can align with busi-nesses here to do it together, or find opportunities for investments," explained Wittal. Miki Town business leaders invited include those from Morikawa Gage Works – a machinery manufacturer hoping to tap into Alberta's oil and gas market – and Yamatomi Japanese Lacquer Ware, interested in opening a branch or dis-

Lacquer ware, interested in opening a branch of distributing their wares here.

"Our goal is getting it set up so they can get in contact with the right people. The key, the important thing when we're meeting is building all the relationships and introducing them to people that we know. Then they can go from there, and we can take a step back," he said.



is 'crunch time' for town projects

Review Staff

With 2011 just around the corner, Mayor Brian Wittal is "cautiously opti-mistic" about plans for the

"This year is crunch time we need to make decisions on what we're moving forward with," said said Wittal. He said there are a number of key issues that have to be decided including what will be done with the sewer and water systems that need to expand for future growth. Other initiatives include ongoing maintenance to street and ewalk repairs.

"Depending on funding, one project can swallow up our budget for a num-ber of years and that could impact other things we want to do but may not be able to," said Wittal.

Other things that need work include a new place to house the fire hall that has become too small and possibly relocating the public works department.

"Public works is on 19th Street. If we're transitioning that part of town (with the new redevelopment plan) when do we transition public works? ... These all need money now If we have to focus on the sewer lagoon and can't get funding a lot of things will be put on hold for the

Last year town adminis tration puzzled over MSI to come in around \$1.35 million. The town instead received \$926, 859 from the government, as the province dealt with its own budget pressures.

The town has been look ing in the last couple of years at creative ways to manage effluent that can't be released more than once a year into the Rosebud River but so far their ideas, which have

included an innovative mechanical treatment sys tem, have been denied funding from the province.

We're going to keep talking with the province about our issues and concerns ... we need to build our profile with them and work with them on what we need," he said. Wittal hopes MSI funding

doesn't shrink more from last year. "It gets hard to plan your budget ... when

we have to start looking at what can get cut," Wittal

Decisions affecting future growth will also be decided within the first few months of the new year including what will be done with off-site levies that were disputed between council and developers over the sumdisputed and mer.

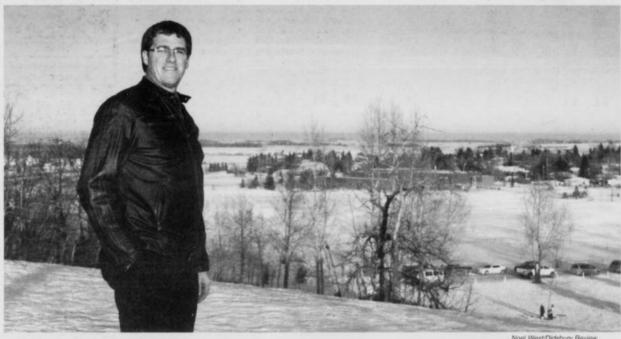
"We need to make a deci-

in the first quarter Will there be a levy or will we phase them in and let the market catch up? can't let it drag on. have to come up with a plan before there's another up- ticking in housing or

demands," he said.

"This last year was busy with a lot of planning because of the economic downturn. It was a good time to get focused with key initiatives ... Things

looking optimistic. New build numbers were in the 30-40 range. We've been in 90 in big years, so not bad for a slow year. We've seen industrial and business growth interest in industrial areas and we've seen more jobs being adver-tised," said Wittal. "I think these are the key signs or key things to happen for the economy to start bouncing back."



Mayor Brian Wittal looks out over the town and discusses plans for 2011.

Didsbury

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Senior boys rank in top ten

BY SYLVIA COLE Review Staff

Didsbury Dragons senior boys team is in the top ten 2A basketball rankings for the province. The results, posted Tuesday afternoon, pleased coach and teammates, who weren't surprised with their placing.

"It's been a long, long time since we've been ranked in the top ten for the province We're pretty excited," said coach Jeff Johnson, who said last year the Dragons received an honourable mention but didn't make the list. He doesn't remember the last time the team has made the list, estimating it could be as far back as 20 years ago.

The ranking will change as continues. season

Johnson said they will be updated again in February before final rankings and provincial totals. Dragons, currently in sixth place should be moving up before the season ends, expects Johnson.

'It usually changes quite a lot after the first one. Actually we feel under ranked. But we don't mind because we feel we have something to prove so we'll go out and prove it. It's better to be attacking then defending, I think."

The team, off to a winning start, has won eight of nine games this season, losing out only to Cochrane High, a team that placed second on 3A top ten list.

"After Christmas we go straight into a Cochrane tour-

Habitat accepts the money.

nament. We'll play Cochrane High directly first game. The weekend after that we go into Canmore and they're 3A and they're ranked fifth in the province. So we have some pretty stiff competition right after Christmas," he said. Johnson said the Dragons have been playing the larger 3A teams and will be going up against the larger 4A groups in the new year.

"Well, we do quite a bit (of playing 3A and 4A) because we want to play against other good teams," he said. The Dragons played one of

their last games until the new vear last week against Olds Koinonia winning 86-44.

The tournament in Cochrane will be the first weekend back, January 7 to



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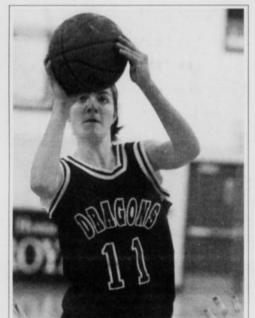


Gary White for Mountain View Credit Union donates \$5,000 to the Habitat for Humanity build in Valarosa. Harold Johnsrude from

Library opens Monday: pilot project



Isaia Labrecave tries his hand at knitting while hanging out with sister Camille and Logan and Kaleb Rauhala. The library will be opening Mondays starting January 3.



Didsbury Dragons player Mackenzie Code goes for a layup over Olds Koinonia Royals players during their game at Olds Koinonia Christian School on Dec. 20. The Dragons won 43-22.





Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting Rosebud Health Foundation will be held Tuesday, January 25, 2011

at the Didsbury Hospital in the Education Conference Room (downstairs) beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Foundation Board please attend as election of officers will take place. Any questions, call Sharon Barefoot at (403) 335-7626

BY SYLVIA COLE

After two years of consideration, the Didsbury library will open on Mondays, starting January 3.

"We're pretty excited, this is something we've wanted to do for awhile," said library

director Inez Kosinski.

The library, typically closed Sunday and Monday, will now open for a few hours Monday afternoon, 12-5. Kosinski said it's a request she's heard from townspeople for years. She said most libraries within Parkland close Monday but based on feedback, she feels the town needs the extra

"I'm here on Monday doing administrative work and there's always people knocking on the door trying to get in," she said.

Every year the library passes out assessment surveys that ask people's opinions on eight standard questions about hours, service and circulation.

"What generates most comments is hours ... peo-ple also want to see a larger for the library. uilding Making it bigger isn't some thing we can do yet, but the

the doors on Monday last year but at the request of council during last year's budget delibrerations the extended hours were put on hold.

"We've decided to go ahead and try it this year anyway," said Kosinski, who hasn't had confirmation from council for their budget requests. "We've made minor adjustments to our schedule but it will be nice if we get the approval so we won't have to worry about it," she said.

Regular library goers are also pleased to hear the deci-

"We come here probably five to six times a week," said Sophie Morier of herself and two children. She said the kids are involved in most of the programs including the knitting class, story time and after school program.

We've asked if they could put beds in the back for us she said, laughing at their frequent visits. "The library is very helpful for us and the staff." she said, explaining that the family also speaks French and they come to the library to order French books. She said no doubt, they'll be coming now on Mondays

Police briefs

BY SYLVIA COLE

Plates taken

Plates were nabbed from a green Chevrolet Astro between December 3 and 17. The van was parked near West Hill Place when the theft occurred.

Hit and run

A side mirror of a truck was ripped off and scattered 50 feet down the road after a hit and run last week. Tire tracks were close to the vehicle and debris was over the road. The hit and run was reported on December 21 around 8 a.m. The victim truck was a Sterling five-ton truck







Didsbury Agricultural Society AGM

7:30pm January 10th At the **Old County Building**







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Opinion

Oilsand reviews important to all Albertans

DAN SINGLETON

Both the Stelmach and Harper governments have recently launched sciencebased reviews of Alberta's oilsands operations – largely in response to recent international criticism of a resource that is absolutely critical to the province's economic well-being.

And while the actual oilsands operations are located in northeast Alberta, far from Mountain View and Red Deer Counties, revenue generated through oilsand extraction pays for hospitals, schools and many other public services in this region and elsewhere in the province.

As such every Albertan, including those in West Central Alberta, has a vested interest in having the reviews succeed in clarifying whether Alberta really is a major producer of so-called 'Dirty Oil' as the critics now claim.

For his part, federal Environment Minister John Baird says the 'Oilsands

Advisory Panel has been put in place because Alberta's oilsands operations play a major role in meeting Canada's energy needs.

Last week the federal panel recommended an overhaul of environmental monitoring of oilsands operations. Baird was quick to say that the federal government plans to follow the panel's recommendations.

"The actions we will take will be guided by science and facts, not by politics and public relations," said Baird.

Provincial Environment Minister Rob Renner has been equally quick to say the provincial and federal reviews are not mutually exclusive, but rather complementary efforts aimed at clarifying a situation that impacts all Canadians.

"The bottom line is we must assure Albertans, Canadians - and the world that the oilsands are being developed responsibly," said Renner.

"To do this, Alberta needs a first-rate monitoring system to protect all environmental media - air, land, water, and biodiversity.

ty.
"I appreciate the work of the federal panel. We agree with the panel on the need for a state-of-the-art environmental monitoring system in the oilsands area."

If the scientific reviews of the oilsands now underway determine the industry is operating in an environmentally sustainable and responsible fashion, as the Stelmach government now claims, then it will go a long way towards defending this key public resource in the eyes of Canada and the world

If, on the other hand, the

reviews find that Alberta really is producing 'Dirty Oil', then both levels of government will need to act quickly to rectify the situation before the current small boycotts of

Alberta oil balloon into something much more damaging and dangerous to the province's economy.

Conducting these scientific reviews of Alberta's oilsands is a timely move by both levels of government. And with more at stake than anyone else, Albertans everywhere will be watching the process with keen interest in 2011.



REVIEW

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program has biggest year, biggest donations Fifty people gathered at 9 hampers. The team effort pile of food steadily disaps Strangers became friends express the wonder of the pile of food steadily disaps. Hamper

the true meaning of Christmas, that of giving, become when you become involved with the excitement of Christmas Helper Program. Just imagine 170 people gathering to wrap gifts, sort food and tape boxes and then think over half of them are youth and children. Seeing the joyful enthusiasm does one's soul good. Families and individuals have made this event part of their Christmas tradi-Donations came from those who gave gifts for the angels from angel tree, hand knitted and crotched items, men's gifts and women's items. For the first year eyer, we purchase items

excitement just spilled over to the pack-ing and delivery of the hampers on December 22.

a.m. with one goal, to was amazing as we peared and soon the mis-pack and distribute 112 worked side by side. This sion was accomplished.



From left to right Patrick Milne, Stephanie Rasmussen and Laura Milne prepare a food hamper at the Zion Church on Dec. 22



Craig Anderson Didsbury Ag Society president and Jason Nevins, RBC Royal Bank Didsbury Branch Manager chose a winner of the annual 50/50 draw last

The raffle was to raise funds for Thunder on The Prairies 2011 and raised \$550

winner The was McCulloch who won \$550 and the generation gap disappeared as children, adults, youth and seniors worked side by side on a common goal. The day slipped by to delivery and pickups. Those who were there made the day a pleasure and the projwas soon finished. can never truly

feel to each and every one who touched this project and to everyone who gave financially, collected food or gifts, helped wrap, sort and deliver the boxes. Without each and every one this project couldn't have been accomplished.

Submitted by Linda Sirr and Linda Reaner

Thank you to everyone who donated money or time to the Christmas Hampers.



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TOWN OF DIDSBURY

PUBLIC MEETINGS & NOTICES

REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING:

Tuesday, January 11, 2011 at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers

MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

Wednesday, January 5, 2011 at 4:30 pm in Council Chambers

On January 14, 2011 the Town office will be closed from 12:00 pm - 1:00.

2010 - 2011 Christmas Schedule Thursday, December 23, 2010 8:30 am to 12 noon Friday, December 24, 2010 CLOSED Monday, December 27, 2010 Re-open Regular Hours Friday, December 31, 2010 8:30 am to 12 noon Monday, January 3, 2011 CLOSED Tuesday, January 4, 2011 Re-open Regular Hours

...

ANIMAL LICENSING

It is time to license your pets with the Town of Didsbury for the year 2011. If you register your pet before January 31, 2011 it will only cost you \$10.00. Anytime afterwards it will be \$15.00 for neutered/spayed pets and \$30.00 for unneutered/spayed pets. Please remember to let us know if your pet is either deceased or no longer living at your place of residence so that we can keep our information up to date and accurate.

You could be fined \$115.00 if your pet is not licensed with the Town of Didsbury. The fine can be issued either through complaints or if your pet is picked up/spotted by a Town of Didsbury Peace Officer. Please register your pet and prevent any possible chances of fines being incurred.

Also remember that you are only legally permitted to have up to 2 dogs and 3 cats in a place of residence within the Town limits.

Thank you

M. Trotter, Community Peace Officer D. Sutherland, Community Peace Officer



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Please note the Arena will be closed on: Saturday December 25, 2010 Saturday January 1, 2011



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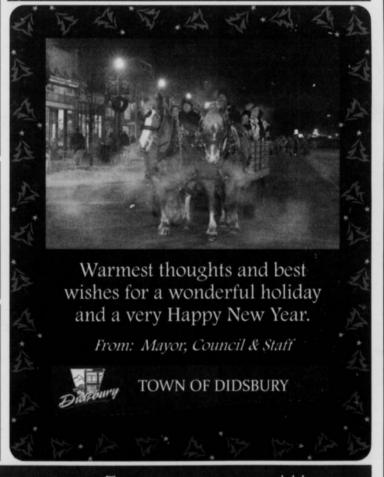
- SPORTS FOR SHORTS Looking for an exciting program for preschoolers? Sports For Shorts explores sports like soccer, basketball and other fun indoor activities - all geared towards 3-5 year olds. This 6-week program will be held in the Multi-Purpose Room Monday nights from January 17 - February 21 from 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm. Cost is \$38.00 for 6 sessions.
- BUSY BUDDIES The Town of Didsbury is offering this popular program introducing games, basic crafts, sing songs and finger plays. Parents must attend class with child. Join us Wednesday mornings from 11:00 am - 12:00 noon, January 12 - February 16 at Didsbury Neighborhood place. For children aged 2 - 4 years. Cost is \$38 for the 6 weeks.
- TODDLER GYM TIME Join Town of Didsbury staff for a high energy hour in the Multi-Purpose Room. Check out our age appropriate toys and gym equipment. This course is for children under 3 years old. January 13 - February 17 from 10:00 am - 11:00 am. Cost is \$38 for 6 weeks.
- RED CROSS BABYSITTING The Town of Didsbury is offering a Babysitting Course on Saturday, January 22 from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm. For ages 11+. Cost of this course is \$55.00. Phone Didsbury Neighborhood Place at 403.335.8719.
- MOTHER'S UNITE SALE The Town of Didsbury is hosting our annual Mother's Unite Sale. Call to book a table for \$15.00 and sell your gently used children's clothing, toys, strollers, etc. (children's items only). From 9:00 am - 2:00 pm on Saturday, January 22, 2011.

For more information or to register, call Didsbury Neighborhood Place at 403-335-8719.

BYLAW STATISTICAL REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2010

The following information are the number of tickets issued for November, 2010 for Traffic Enforcement and Animal Control and other Municipal Bylaws.

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RASMUSSEN

Bernice Jeannette Rasmussen of Olds, AB formerly of Didsbury, AB, passed away peacefully on Sunday, December 19, 2010 at the age of 79 years.

Bernice was born in McLennan, AB June 12, 1931 and spent her younger years in Northern Alberta. She met and married Oliver Rasmussen in 1950 and after numerous moves they eventually settled in Didsbury in 1966. She worked at the Didsbury Nursing Home for many

worked at the Didsbury Nursing Home for many years retiring in 1989.
Bernice is survived by her six children, Vernal, Rod, Murry, Darlene, Tina and Rhonda, 13 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband Oliver in 1989 and her grandson Stephen in 1991.
Funeral service will be held December 23, 2010 at 11:00 am Mountain View Funeral Chapel 5226 - 46th Street Olds, AB. Visitation will be held prior to the service at 10:00 am. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Olds Hospital long-term care 3901 - 57 Ave, Olds, Alberta T4H 1T4. Condolences to the family may be forwarded from www.mountanviewfuneralchapel.com. Arrangements entrusted to Mountain View Arrangements entrusted to Mountain View Funeral Chapel, 5226 – 46 Street, Olds. Phone 403-556-3223.



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Peer Support Services for Abused Women would like to thank the Didsbury Chamber of Commerce for their generous donation as well as choosing Peer Support Services as their Charity of Choice. The money raised will help women and children lead violence free lives!

The Chamber of Commerce's Gala not only provided an opportunity for people in our community to donate, it also brought awareness regarding the issues of Family Violence in our own communities. Thank you for helping us build safer communities for women and children in Mountain View County!!

Trina Lonsberry Program Coordinator Mountain View County

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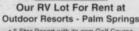
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